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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/553,586	04/20/2000	Gideon Lee	79269.913	4827

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EXAMINER

BECKER, SHAWN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/553,586

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

Shawn M. Becker

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 January 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 29 January 2003 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communication filed 1/29/03.

Drawings

1. The proposed drawing correction and/or the proposed substitute sheets of drawings, filed on 1/29/03 have been accepted. A proper drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The correction to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 28 is objected to because of the following informalities: --a-- should be inserted between "comprising" and "first" in line 6. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 14 - 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 14 is unclear because "computer readable program code" in line 6 seems out of context.

5. Claim 14 recites the limitation "said control program code" in line 7. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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6. Claim 14 recites the limitation "said computer readable control program code" in line 8.

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 20 is indefinite because "configured to generate definitional statement" in lines 6-7 is ambiguous. It is not clear if there should be singular or plural definitional statements.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 14-18 and 20-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,249,291 to Popp et al. (hereinafter Popp).

Referring to claim 14, Popp discloses a method in a computer system and a computer usable medium having computer readable program code that uses a namespace in generating a GUI (web page in a browser). See the description about Group Object on page 15, line 36 – page 16, line 47 for a description of how Popp uses namespaces. A Name property identifies the group (namespace). Popp provides computer readable program code configured to cause a computer to generate a unique name space designation. Popp provides a namespace (group name) that contains a set of named elements, such that the names within the group are resolved to a particular element. See col. 15, line 55 - col. 16, line 9. Each group has a unique name. Popp teaches associating a namespace (group) with the control program code. See col. 4, lines

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20-41 and the description of associations, beginning on col. 16, line 48. Popp teaches that the program code uses the unique name space designation to generate a plurality of definitional statements and identify the control with which the unique name space designation is associated. See col. 4, lines 20-26, which show how the plurality of definitional elements can be in a group (namespace) and generated by the group. Also see col. 19, line 60 – col. 20, line 20.

Referring to claims 21 and 28, Popp discloses a GUI system with a processor and method of using a namespace in generating a GUI that models a component of a GUI as a control that is implemented as program code (col. 4, lines 20-63) and generates at least one definitional statement for the component of the GUI using the program code. The definitional statement includes at least one attribute for the component of the GUI, which includes a unique namespace designation that is associated with a particular control and capable of identifying the control. See col. 4, lines 20-26, which show how the plurality of definitional elements can be in a group (namespace) and generated by the group. Also see col. 19, line 60 – col. 20, line 20.

Referring to claims 15, 22, and 29, Popp teaches that the definitional statement includes a name attribute that specifies a data label and that the method and program code is configured to generate a label to be associated with data, and that label includes the unique name space designation. See col. 16, lines 30-47 and 64-67.

Referring to claims 16 and 23, Popp discloses that the label is associated with the data (col. 16, lines 64-67). Col. 20, lines 28-37 describes how the program code is identified as recipient of the data using the unique name space designation in the label (“FORM.EMPLOYEE”). Also, see col. 12, lines 1-14.

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Referring to claims 17 and 25, the plurality of definitional statements in Popp are Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) statements. See col. 3, lines 34-42 and col. 4, lines 48-52.

Referring to claims 18, 24, and 32, the program code (control) is an object-oriented object. See the Element Objects section on col. 11, specifically lines 7-35, which describe how code for the definitional statements can utilize object-oriented programming.

Referring to claim 20, Popp discloses that the GUI comprises a plurality of GUI elements, wherein one of the plurality of GUI elements is defined as being within another of the plurality of GUI elements. See col. 4, lines 64-65, which describes that a control object (GUI element) can have subcontrols.

Popp teaches associating a first unique name space designation with program code configured to generate definitional statements for the another of the GUI elements. Popp also teaches associating a second unique name space designation with program code configured to generate definitional statements for the one of the plurality of GUI elements, and the second name space designation includes the first name space designation. See col. 17, lines 1-46. Table 5 shows "WEBPEOPLE" is contained in the "SELECT_FORM" object, and thus includes its name space designation.

Referring to claim 26, Popp discloses the step of generating a design for the GUI that identifies a plurality of GUI components. For example, see col. 4, lines 35-41.

Referring to claim 27, Popp discloses a first of the plurality of GUI components in the design is located within a second of the plurality of GUI components, wherein the unique namespace designation is associated with the second of the components and includes the step of generating at least one definitional statement for the first component of the GUI using program

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code. The definitional statement includes at least one attribute for the first component of the GUI that comprises a first unique namespace designation, which includes the namespace designation associated with the second of the components. See col. 17, lines 1-46. Table 5 shows "WEBPEOPLE" is contained in the "SELECT_FORM" object, and thus includes its name space designation. Also, see col. 16, lines 30-47.

Referring to claim 30, Popp discloses a browser configured to generate a name-value pair, wherein the name portion includes the label. Col. 6, lines 40-48 describe the use of a browser, such as Netscape© or Mosaic©, and col. 20, lines 28-38 describe the use of name-value pairs including a label.

Referring to claim 31, Popp teaches a page control configured to examine the name portion of the name-value pair and to direct the name-value pair to the program code based on the namespace designation in the name portion. See col. 21, line 60 – col. 22, line 50, which describe push and pull methods to send the program code the appropriate value associated with the appropriate name space designation. Also, see col. 26, line 61 – col. 27, line 4.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 19 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Popp.

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Popp describes how any language could be used as the control, including Java. See col. 10, line 56 – col. 11, line 17 and col. 7, lines 52-58. He does not explicitly teach the use of a Java Bean, however Java Beans are notoriously well known to be used in Java, which Popp teaches as a language for the control. The Examiner takes Official Notice of this teaching. It would have been obvious to use a Java Bean as the control in a GUI, because of their reusability and efficient visual programming.

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed 1/29/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that the group name in Popp is not the same as the namespace designation in the claims. However, Popp discloses that the group names provide an extension to identify the group by name, which means each group name must be unique in order to resolve the specified element. The components within the group are associated with the group. The Microsoft Computer Dictionary defines a namespace as “a grouping of one or more names that represent individual objects within the group in a shared computer environment, such as a network. The names in a namespace are unique, are created by the same rules, and can be resolved into a particular identifying item of information...” Popp provides a namespace (group name) that contains a set of named elements, such that the names within the group are resolved to a particular element, as described in the claim and in the Microsoft Computer Dictionary. Each group has a unique name. See col. 15, line 55 - col. 16, line 9.

Applicant argues that Popp does not teach the arrangement where embedded GUI elements are defined at one level by a first unique namespace designation and at a second

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embedded level by a second unique namespace designation, which includes the first namespace designation. This is taught in col. 17, lines 1-46 as described above with respect to claims 20 and 27.

Conclusion

12. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

13. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach using namespaces in XML, which defines GUI elements. The Visual Basic reference describes a naming convention that uniquely identifies each GUI object.

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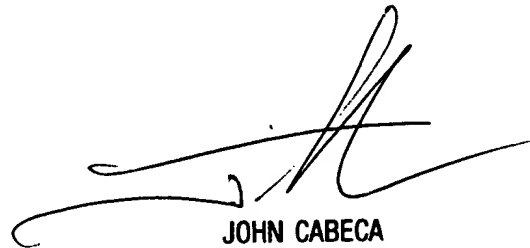
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawn M. Becker whose telephone number is 703-305-7756.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 8:00 - 5:30 and alternating Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Cabeca can be reached on 703-305-3116. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-745-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

smb
April 17, 2003



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100